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China

OLC 75-1140

19 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.)  
on 12 May 1975

1. Accompanied Dr. Edward Proctor, DDI, to a meeting with Senator William Proxmire regarding his letter of 24 April 1975 requesting a briefing of his Subcommittee on Economies and Priorities in Government, of the Joint Economic Committee, on "Allocation of resources of the Soviet Union and China." Mr. Richard Kaufman, of the Committee staff, and Mr. Ronald Tammen, of the Senator's personal staff, also participated.
2. Dr. Proctor suggested that, because of new and as yet unevaluated information on Soviet military expenditures, this hearing be deferred for several months. He thought we would be in a better position by that time to cover these aspects of the briefing Senator Proxmire had requested.
3. The Senator had to leave the meeting because of another commitment but it was obvious he was placing this matter in the hands of his staff members. After considerable discussion with them, Dr. Proctor agreed that the Agency would appear before the Subcommittee sometime in June and be prepared to brief on items 1, 2, and 4 of page 1 and page 2 of Senator Proxmire's 24 April 1975 letter. The Agency would discuss question 3 in terms of dollar values of Soviet military expenditures and other aspects of question 3 not affected by the new information on Soviet military expenditures.
4. A rather long and involved conversation ensued with respect to the fourteen questions on pages 2, 3, and 4 of Senator Proxmire's letter. Dr. Proctor agreed to provide the Committee staff with the written answers

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sometime before the hearings on all questions except 3, 4, and 9. He said flatly that we could not respond to question 3 on both practical and bureaucratic grounds. Since question 4 involved Soviet GNP and the military share, Dr. Proctor turned it down; however, we could provide estimates of projected expenditures in dollars for the next few years. He said that the monetary data for question 8 was just not available, but he agreed we could provide some background on Soviet practices with regard to prototypes and competitive designs through a few examples in missiles or aircraft. In these answers, Dr. Proctor said we would have to be very general about the classified sources of our information.

5. It was agreed that we would check with our principals and get back in touch with one another.

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GEORGE L. CARY  
Legislative Counsel

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